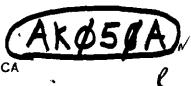


2/22/19

· EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



Buenos Aires

February 22, 1979

ARGENTINA PROJECT (\$200000044)
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

UNCLASSIFIED

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

(X) Release () Excise () Deny

Exemption(s):
Declassify: () In Part () In Full

() Classify as __ () Extend as __ () Downgrade to __

San Francisco, California 94118 Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reason _____

Dear Ms. Turnbull:

The staff has finally accumulated the information necessary to reply to your letter of February 6 with its enclosed list of applicants. You will note that there has been some sort of action on almost all the cases. In a fer instances such as Humberto Acosta and Ruben Jantzon the information is not altogether complete. We are trying to find out what Acosta's current status is, that is whether he is to be freed or he is being charged and is to be tried in the courts. We must assume that Ruben Jantzon has received a certificate from some other Embassy since otherwise the Ministry would not be processing his petition for right of option. As a generalization, when the Ministry refuses a request for interview the applicant is either being tried, has recently had a petition for right of optic denied or has already been granted right of option.

Our biggest problem is with those who are announced as having been removed from PEN status. Customarily, it takes two to four weeks for the formal documentation for such a prisoner to move from the Ministry to the prison, and if the documents provide for release that may require up to eight days more. Consequently, we are fortunate when we are able to learn from the family of the release of a PEN prisoner within a month of the time his name appears in the press. You will also note that our request to interview Dr. Marcos Broschi was denied on November 15, 1978.

82 D103 Box 17404 Page 2 Ms. Wendy Turnbull February 22, 1979

There have been five persons who have gone to the United States under the right of option program, although not all c them are parolled. In some cases they received immigrant vi in some cases they were dual nationals and travelled on U. Spassports and in some cases they were granted parole. We believe that ICEM will be providing transportation for those coming to the United States. Further information on this me come from the Department of State which is dealing with ICEM

I am glad to hear that your refugee resettlement program is moving ahead well and wish you the best of luck in this valuable effort. As you may have heard, Frank Azevedo has been withdrawn from Argentina by the IRC, since the refugee program is virtually completed.

I am enclosing current data on A.I. interest cases. The should give you a reasonable background on the status of eactase. If there is an omission to your request it is based to shortage of personnel to prepare lists rather than an oversion an effort to evade the question. Due to a world-wide personnel reduction process, we seem to be seriously affected plus recent events in the Consulate brought forth the necess to dismiss several Nationals for Admin reasons. We are just now attempting to put the pieces together by recruiting new help from other Embassy sections.

My best wishes and hope all goes well with you.

Sincerely,

Raul H. Castro

Ambassador

RHC:mmp Encl. list